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**To: MCADSV Membership**

**From: MCADSV Board of Directors**

**Re: Revised Membership Dues Structure Effective December 2013**

**Date: October 22nd, 2013**

In order to increase MCADSV’s unrestricted financial resources and bring MCADSV member dues more in line with other state Coalitions, the MCADSV Board of Directors has decided to increase membership dues. These changes will be effective as of December 2013. The MCADSV Board of Directors has the authority to establish membership dues amounts; only the membership categories are outlined in the organizational bylaws.

The current MCADSV membership dues structure is antiquated and reflects the lowest amount for member dues of any Coalition in the country. MCADSV staff conducted extensive research over many years time to determine other Coalition membership and dues structures. They found that the most common way of calculating dues was a percentage of total budget. Other formats included flat rates or graduated rates based on budget size.

After significant consideration, the MCADSV Board has decided to remain with a flat rate for organizational and individual memberships, but to increase the per year amount in order to bring it more in line with other state Coalitions and membership organizations in Montana.

As such, the new dues structure for MCADSV members will be as follows:

* Organizational Members $250 annual dues (current amount is $50)
* Individual members $50 annual dues (current amount is $15-25)

Organizations can petition to have their membership dues reduced (aka sliding scale) on a case by case basis.  They must request it each year.  The requests will be reviewed and approved by the MCADSV Board Finance Committee.  The Board hopes that this will address the concerns of any programs that may not be able to afford the increased amount right away or during tough budget years.

The dues structure will be communicated to the funders so that they are not surprised when programs request additional funds for membership dues.

We appreciate your continued participation in and support of MCADSV.